

## Message Text

SECRET

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00

PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 H-03 NSC-10 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14

USIE-00 AEC-11 OMB-01 OIC-04 DRC-01 /149 W

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O R 281315Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8929

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T BONN 17103

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

SHAPE FOR INTAF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR: ALLIANCE APPROACH TO STABILIZING  
MEASURES

REF: A) USNATO 5733 B) VIENNA 9719

1. LIKE USNATO, WE ALSO AGREE WITH USDEL MBFR WISH THAT  
THE ALLIES DECIDE BEFORE CHRISTMAS RECESS ON HOW TO  
HANDLE STABILIZING MEASURES. GERMAN FONOFF OFFICIALS  
HAVE VOLUNTEERED THAT THEY SEE MERIT IN THE VIEW THAT  
TREATING STABILIZING MEASURES CONCURRENTLY WITH REDUCTION  
NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE WAY FOR THE FRG  
TO DEFER THE CONTENTIOUS ISSUE OF AREA AND THEIR CONTINU-  
ING DISAGREEMENT WITH THE UK OVER THE POSSIBLE APPLICA-

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TION OF CONSTRAINTS TO EUROPEAN FORCES. WHILE RESERVING

THEIR POSITION, FONOFF REPS CONSIDER THAT CONCURRENT NEGOTIATION OF REDUCTIONS AND CONSTRAINTS MIGHT PROVIDE AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE CURRENT GERMAN "LIMITED DURATION APPROACH", WHICH IS DESIGNED TO AVOID PREJUDICE TO THE AREA ISSUE. FONOFF REPS ALSO CONSIDER THAT, AS A POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO BONN'S PRESENT PREFERRED POLICY OF WITHHOLDING PARA 23 MEASURES II AND IV PENDING PROGRESS AT GENEVA ON CBMS, CONCURRENT NEGOTIATION OF REDUCTIONS AND CONSTRAINTS ALSO COULD PROVIDE THE FRG AND OTHER WESTERN ALLIES SUFFICIENT TIME TO ARGUE, IN THE INTERIM, FOR SATISFACTORY CBMS IN CSCE NEGOTIATIONS.

2. IN OUR VIEW, THE GERMAN THINKING PROCESS IS NOT YET RIPE FOR A DEFINITIVE DECISION ON THESE MATTERS. AS EARLIER REPORTED, THE FRG/UK INTERPLAY ON STABILIZING MEASURES MAY BE CLARIFIED SOMEWHAT FOLLOWING THE NOV 29 SPC SESSION AND THE ROTH VISIT TO LONDON. HOWEVER, THE GERMAN DEFENSE MINISTRY HAS FOCUSED UNTIL NOW ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON COMMON CEILING/REDUCTIONS. GIVEN THE PRIORITY MINISTER LEBER AND ASST SECRETARY WIECK ATTACH TO BUNDESWEHR REORGANIZATION, THIS DEFENSE MINISTRY FOCUS APPARENTLY FLARED INTO SOME ANGER LATE LAST WEEK WHEN FRG PERM REP KRAPF EXCEEDED HIS (TOUGHLY FOUGHT OUT INTERMINISTERIAL) INSTRUCTIONS IN ACCEPTING COMMON CEILING FORMULATION IN ALLIED FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL. IN ANY CASE, DEFENSE MINISTRY MBFR DEPT CHIEF TANDECKI TELLS US MOD HAS NOT YET ACCORDED SUFFICIENT ATTENTION TO OR THOUGHT THROUGH IMPLICATIONS OF STABILIZING MEASURES.

3. WITH GERMAN VIEWS IN MIND,, WE SHARE USNATO RECOMMENDATION THAT US AVOID DEMARCHES IN CAPITALS FOR TIME BEING AND LEAVE IT TO UK AND FRG, AS KEY PARTNERS, FIRST TO TRY TO COMPOSE THEIR OWN DIFFERENCES. IF IMPASSE DEVELOPS, THEN AS USNATO SUGGESTS, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO WEIGH IN APPROPRIATELY WITH BONN AND LONDON, EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER DECEMBER 3 NAC.  
HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FORCE & TROOP LEVELS, MILITARY CAPABILITIES, TROOP REDUCTIONS, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 NOV 1973  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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